

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 718

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Fred White, Jr., of Oliver Springs.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Fred White, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. White was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Fred White was born on September 22, 1921, in Briceville; and

WHEREAS, he grew up in Lake City and moved to Oliver Springs sixty years ago; and

WHEREAS, Mr. White served with valor and distinction as a member of the Civilian Conservative Corps District C, Company 5427, between 1938 and 1940, working in the Cades Cove area; and

WHEREAS, he was a proud veteran of World War II, earning the rank of corporal, and he served with the Army Battery C 78th, Armored Field Artillery Battalion, from July 1940 to June 1945, during which time he served in French Morocco, Sicily, Normandy, Northern France, and Germany; and

WHEREAS, Fred White was awarded the Bronze Star for his meritorious service on August 10, 1944, in France; and

WHEREAS, while serving in World War II, Mr. White was the assigned driver for then-Lieutenant General George S. Patton; and

WHEREAS, before his retirement, Fred White served with acumen and alacrity for five years as a firefighter and guard for Union Carbide; and

WHEREAS, he drove a coal truck for Walls and Coker for more than thirty years, and he retired from West Coal Co. of New River in Anderson County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. White was an active and devout member of Mount Pisgah Baptist Church for nearly sixty years, which he served faithfully as an ordained deacon, as an assistant Sunday school teacher, and as church treasurer, the role which he shared with his wife for many years; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Fred White was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his loving wife of sixty-three years, Thelma Inez Keylon White; his parents, Fred White, Sr., and Ocie White; three brothers, Charles, James, and Bill White; and a sister, Ann Marie; and

WHEREAS, Mr. White is survived by two sons, Jerry (Phyllis) White and Rickey (Danita) White; four grandchildren, Kristy (Kevin) Seeber, Korey (Myranda) White, Kasey (Lindsay) White, and Justin (Taylor) White; five great-grandchildren, Kaitlyn and Karson Seeber, and Keigan, Keylon, and Kylee White; and he was excited about the impending birth of his twin great-granddaughters and another great-grandson, all due in the summer of 2012; and

WHEREAS, he is also survived by a niece, Lisa (Johnny) Watkins; a nephew, Chuck (Louise) White; three sisters-in-law, Chris White, Lucille Ladd, and Genevie Phillips; and a host of other nieces, nephews, friends and family, including those who knew him at Mount Pisgah Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Fred White leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Fred White, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. White.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.